

ARD Broadcasters Harmonize and Accelerate File Transfer with TIXEL

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Germany's largest public broadcast organization ARD, including their regional broadcasting stations, as well as the international branch DW (Deutsche Welle) implemented their new file exchange system "MFT 2.0" using TIXEL's high-speed file transfer solutions. Continuously increasing transfer volumes due to high resolution content and the need for an integration of all media (radio, television, online) with their different formats and associated metadata required a common universal transfer platform.

With TIXstream MFT now all kinds of media assets can be exchanged between the facilities – including the 10 ARD headquarters, arte, DW, a number of regional subsidiary sites, as well as partner companies – while fully utilizing ARD's multi-gigabit network infrastructure. Moving Terabytes of data per day, TIXEL's integrated high-speed transfer engine thereby significantly reduces transfer times, to cope with tight schedules in today's broadcast business.

TIXstream MFT's decentralized architecture, the transparent handling of associated metadata and it's flexible REST API finally enable a fully automated end-to-end media exchange within a heterogeneous workflow infrastructure.

In the current setup a variety of CMS, MAM, archiving systems from multiple vendors and TIXEL's Control Center Web UI is used to control and monitor transfers. At the different locations TIXstream MFT runs on various Windows and Linux operating systems and is connected to NAS and SAN storage systems e.g. via CIFS, FTP and SFTP.

Several broadcast stations complement their TIXstream MFT with TIXstream FX, TIXEL's file exchange solution for Internet users. TIXstream FX allows foreign studios and external organizations to transfer files by just using a web browser or TIXEL's acceleration client. The MFT/FX relay functionality manages seamless and secure handover of media files and metadata between the public Internet and the internal production network.

About ARD

In the ARD (Arbeitsgemeinschaft der öffentlich-rechtlichen Rundfunkanstalten der Bundesrepublik Deutschland – Consortium of public broadcasters in Germany), nine independent broadcast stations have joined forces to offer a wide range of programs on television, radio and the Internet. A tenth member is Deutsche Welle (DW). The ARD produces 11 TV and 55 radio programs.

About TIXEL

TIXEL is a German vendor of solutions for high-speed data transfer in wide area multi-gigabit IP networks. TIXEL products are primarily used to optimize data-intensive distributed workflows for cloud services, big data exchange, and media production.

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